LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An installation for manufacturing a wound rigid tubular pipe, the wound rigid tubular pipe being intended to be installed subsea by a laying ship, the installation comprising:

an assembly unit operable for assembling a plurality of rigid tubes end to end to obtain tube lengths, the assembly unit being further operable ~~and~~ for assembling the tube lengths to form ~~the~~ a rigid tubular pipe;

~~a storage reel situated on the laying ship onto which the tubular pipe is intended to be wound and the pipe having undergone plastic deformation;~~

a first float separate from the laying ship;

an intermediate winding and deforming apparatus arranged on the first float, the intermediate winding and deforming apparatus being ~~and~~ operable to plastically deform the rigid tubular pipe and to wind the rigid tubular pipe onto the intermediate winding and deforming apparatus after the rigid tubular pipe has been formed; ~~and~~

a connector connecting together the first float and the assembly unit; and

a storage reel positioned on the laying ship, the rigid tubular pipe being wound onto the storage reel after being plastically deformed by the intermediate winding and deforming apparatus.

2. (Currently Amended) The installation according to Claim 1, wherein the intermediate winding and deforming apparatus comprises ~~comprise~~ an intermediate storage reel having a first drum diameter which is greater than a second drum diameter of the storage reel of the laying ship.

3. (Currently Amended) The installation according to Claim 2, wherein the first drum diameter of the intermediate storage reel is greater than a maximum diameter of a last portion of

the rigid pipe that is likely to be wound onto the storage reel of the laying ship.

4. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 1, further comprising a second float on which the assembly unit is mounted.

5. (Previously Presented) The installation according to Claim 4, wherein the second float has a length of between 40 and 120 meters along a direction between the storage reel and the intermediate winding and deforming apparatus.

6. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 5, wherein the connector includes an articulated mount on the first float and on the assembly unit, the articulated mount being operable to allow relative movement of the first float and of the assembly unit at least in a vertical direction.

7. (Previously Presented) The installation according to Claim 6, wherein the connector comprises a catch that can be locked so as to obtain a removable connector.

8. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 1, wherein the connector has a lattice configuration.

9. (Currently Amended) The installation according to claim 1, wherein the intermediate winding and deforming apparatus comprises ~~comprise~~ an intermediate storage reel mounted vertically on the first float, the intermediate storage reel ~~and~~ being drivable to rotate about a horizontally-arranged axis to wind the rigid tubular pipe.

10. (Currently Amended) The installation according to claim 1, wherein the ~~said~~ first float comprises a float ballast weight tank fillable to weigh down the first float according to a length of the rigid tubular pipe wound onto the intermediate winding apparatus.

11. (Currently Amended) The installation according to claim 1, wherein the ~~said~~ first float comprises a barge or a vessel with a stable hull.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a wound rigid tubular pipe, the wound rigid tubular pipe being intended to be installed subsea by a laying ship, the method comprising:

assembling a plurality of rigid tubes end to end to obtain tube lengths and assembling the tube lengths to form ~~the~~ a rigid tubular pipe ~~which is intended to be wound onto a storage reel situated on the laying ship, the pipe having undergone plastic deformation;~~;

plastically deforming and then winding the rigid tubular pipe onto a first float separate from the laying ship after the rigid tubular pipe has been assembled; and

transferring the wound rigid tubular pipe from the first float to a storage reel positioned on the laying ship by rewinding the rigid tubular pipe onto the storage reel after the rigid tubular pipe was subjected to plastic deformation.